

THE CNN / WMUR GRANITE STATE POLL

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SURVEY CENTER

LYNCH JOB APPROVAL STAYS HIGH

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www.unh.edu/survey-center
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DURHAM, NH – New Hampshire Governor John Lynch continues to enjoy extremely high job approval. Education funding continues to top the list of concerns.

These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll**,* conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. The Granite State Poll is sponsored by CNN and WMUR-TV, Manchester. Five hundred twenty-four (524) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between July 9 and July 17, 2007. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/-4.3 percent.

Gubernatorial Approval

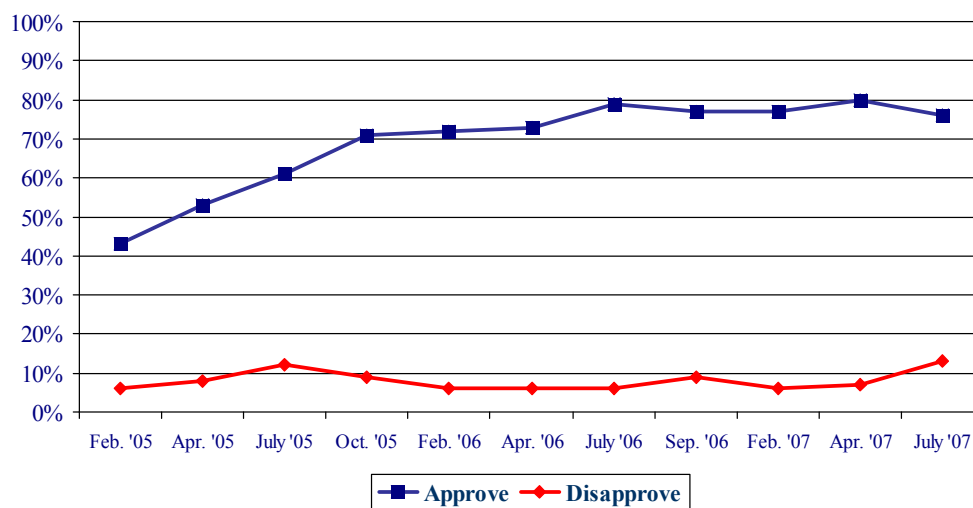
John Lynch's approval rating as New Hampshire Governor, which reached a record high in the April Granite State Poll, dropped slightly but remains at extremely high levels. In the most recent Granite State Poll, 76 percent of New Hampshire adults say they approve of the job Lynch has done as governor, 13 percent disapprove, and 11 percent are neutral.

"The Republican Party will have to work very hard to try to reduce support for Lynch," said Andrew Smith, Director of the UNH Survey Center. "If approval for Lynch stays above 60 percent, it means that he will most likely be reelected in 2008 and if it stays over 70 percent, it will be very difficult for Republicans to retake the State House and Senate."

"The Governor still gets high marks from the public for governing in a bipartisan way, despite the fact that he now leads a Democratic majority in the legislature," said Dante Scala of the University of New Hampshire's Political Science department. "It's tough for the opposing party to make political inroads against a personally popular leader who governs during good economic times."

Lynch gets high job approval ratings Democrats (90%) and Independents (77%), but his support among Republicans has declined somewhat to 56 percent. In April, 74 percent of Republicans said they approved of the job Lynch was doing as Governor.

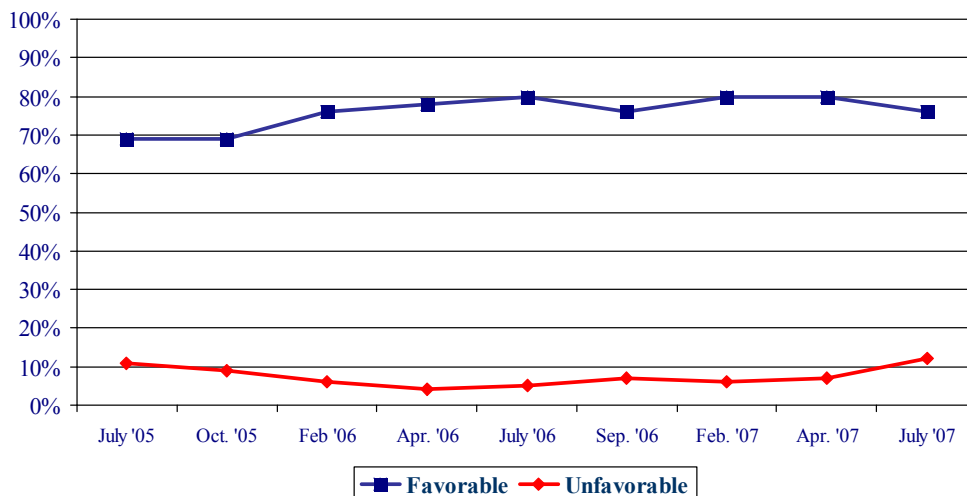
NH Gubernatorial Approval – John Lynch



* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as *the Granite State Poll*, sponsored by CNN and WMUR-TV.

Lynch's personal favorability rating is also very high. In the latest Granite State Poll, 76 percent of New Hampshire residents say they have a favorable opinion of Lynch, 12 percent have an unfavorable opinion, 8 percent are neutral, and 5 percent say they don't know enough about him to say. Lynch's net favorability rating, the percentage having a favorable opinion minus the percentage having an unfavorable opinion, remains extremely high at +64 percent.

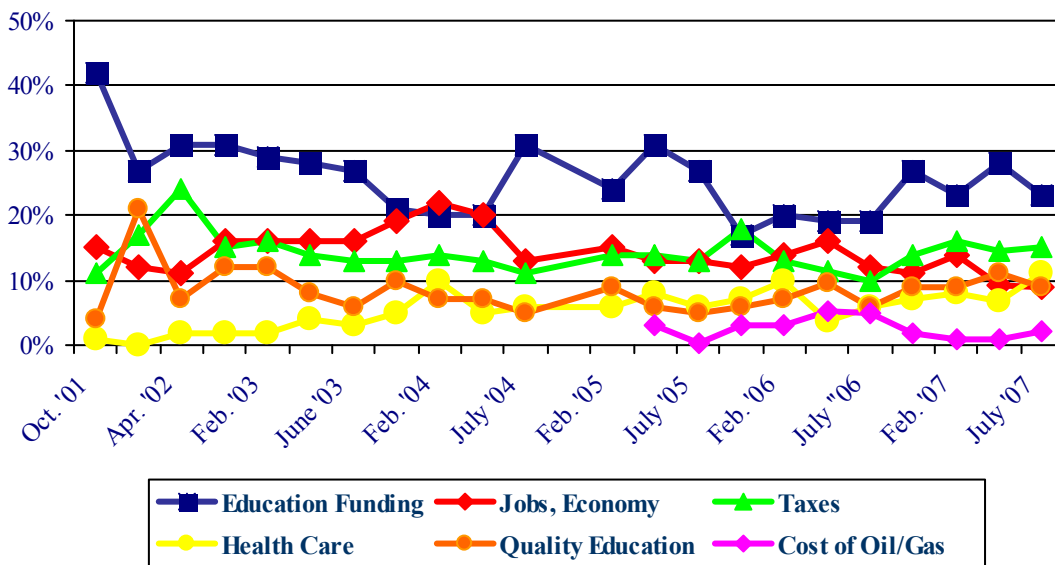
Favorability Ratings – NH Governor John Lynch



Most Important Problem Facing New Hampshire

As the Legislature and the Governor try to cope with the recent NH Supreme Court decision throwing out the latest plan to deal with education funding, this problem will continue to dominate the legislative calendar in Concord. How to fund primary and secondary education is also seen as the most important problem facing the state of New Hampshire, cited by 23 percent of New Hampshire adults, followed by high taxes and desires to change the tax system (15%), health care issues (11%), jobs and the economy (9%), and the quality of education (9%).

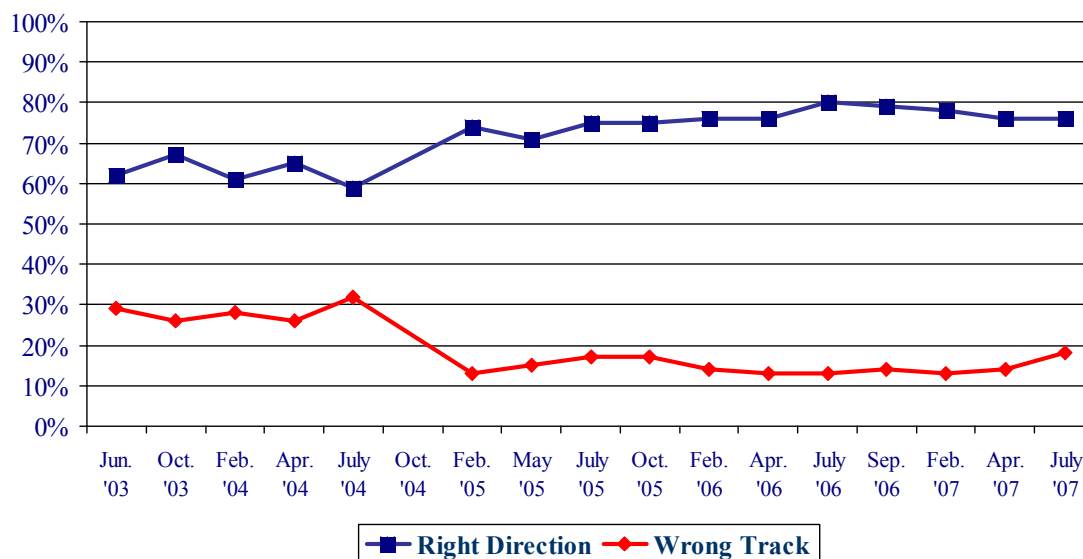
Most Important Problem Facing NH



Right Direction or Wrong Track?

Granite Staters are extremely optimistic about the future of New Hampshire. Seventy-six percent think things in New Hampshire are generally going in the right direction, 18 percent think things are seriously off on the wrong track, and 6 percent say they don't know. This indicator of optimism about the state has remained at very high levels over the past two years. By comparison, only 34% of New Hampshire adults believe the United States is headed in the right direction.

NH Heading in Right Direction or On Wrong Track?



Granite State Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll** conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. The Granite State Poll is sponsored by CNN and WMUR-TV, Manchester. Five hundred twenty-four (524) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between July 9 and July 17, 2007. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/-4.3 percent.

The data have been weighted to adjust for numbers of adults and telephone lines within households, respondent sex, and region of the state. In addition to potential sampling error, all surveys have other potential sources of non-sampling error including question order effects, question wording effects, and non-response.

Gubernatorial Approval – John Lynch

“GENERALLY SPEAKING, do you approve or disapprove of the way Governor Lynch is handling his job as governor?”

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Neutral/DK</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
July '07	76%	11%	13%	(501)
Apr. '07	80	12	7	(514)
Feb. '07	77	16	6	(531)
Sept. '06	77	14	9	(504)
July '06	79	15	6	(498)
Apr. '06	73	21	6	(489)
Feb. '06	72	22	6	(491)
Oct. '05	71	20	9	(495)
July '05	61	26	12	(490)
Apr. '05	53	39	8	(480)
Feb. '05	43	51	6	(524)

Favorability Ratings – Governor John Lynch

"Next, I'd like to get your overall opinion of some people in the news. As I read each name, please say if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this person - or if you have never heard of him or her. Governor (Hopkinton businessman) John Lynch."

	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>NET</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
July '07	76%	8%	12%	5%	+64%	(505)
Apr. '07	80	9	7	4	+73%	(515)
Feb. '07	80	9	6	5	+74%	(536)
Sept. '06	76	11	7	5	+69%	(511)
July '06	80	8	5	7	+75%	(505)
Apr. '06	78	10	4	8	+74%	(503)
Feb. '06	76	12	6	6	+70%	(499)
Oct. '05	69	13	9	8	+60%	(508)
July '05	69	9	11	11	+58%	(500)
Oct. '04	34	13	12	40	+22%	(573)
July '04	17	8	6	69	+11%	(508)
Feb. '04	7	9	6	77	+1%	(509)

Most Important Problem Facing New Hampshire

"Let's turn to the State of New Hampshire ... There are many problems facing the STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE today. In general, what do you think is the most IMPORTANT problem facing the STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE today?"

	<u>Jobs, the Economy</u>	<u>Education Funding</u>	<u>Taxes</u>	<u>Health Care</u>	<u>Quality Educ.</u>	<u>Growth/ Sprawl</u>	<u>State Budget</u>	<u>Cost of Gas/Oil</u>	<u>Other/ DK</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
July '07	9%	23%	15%	11%	9%	2%	1%	2%	29%	(488)
Apr. '07	15	28	15	7	11	2	1	1	20	(501)
Feb. '07	14	23	16	8	9	2	1	1	26	(527)
Sept. '06	11	27	14	7	9	3	2	2	26	(499)
July '06	12	19	10	6	6	3	1	5	38	(490)
Apr. '06	16	19	11	4	10	3	2	5	30	(501)
Feb. '06	14	20	13	10	7	3	1	3	29	(498)
Oct. '05	12	17	18	7	6	5	2	3	30	(503)
July '05	13	27	13	6	5	4	2	*	28	(496)
Apr. '05	13	31	14	8	6	3	5	3	18	(487)
Feb. '05	15	24	14	6	9	2	2	*	28	(541)
July '04	13	31	11	6	5	4	2	0	28	(504)
Apr. '04	20	20	13	5	7	3	4	0	29	(536)
Feb. '04	22	20	14	10	7	2	5	0	21	(502)
Oct. '03	19	21	13	5	10	3	6	0	23	(490)
June '03	16	27	13	3	6	1	9	0	25	(513)
Apr. '03	16	28	14	4	8	2	6	0	22	(497)
Feb. '03	16	29	16	2	12	2	2	0	21	(644)
June '02	16	31	15	2	12	1	5	0	18	(424)
Apr. '02	11	31	24	2	7	2	1	0	22	(684)
Feb. '02	12	27	17	0	21	1	3	0	19	(312)
Oct. '01	15	42	11	1	4	2	*	0	25	(519)

* Less than 1%

NH - Right Direction or Wrong Track

“Do you think things in New Hampshire are generally going in the right direction or are they seriously off on the wrong track?”

	<u>Right Direction</u>	<u>Wrong Track</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
July '07	76%	18%	6%	(500)
Apr. '07	76%	14%	9%	(506)
Feb. '07	78%	13%	8%	(524)
Sept. '06	79%	14%	7%	(509)
July '06	80%	13%	8%	(497)
Apr. '06	76%	13%	11%	(501)
Feb. '06	76%	14%	10%	(495)
Oct. '05	75%	17%	9%	(502)
July '05	75%	17%	8%	(494)
May '05	71%	15%	13%	(488)
Feb. '05	74%	13%	13%	(535)
July '04	59%	32%	9%	(503)
Apr. '04	65%	26%	9%	(530)
Feb. '04	61%	28%	11%	(500)
Oct. '03	67%	26%	7%	(485)
Jun. '03	62%	29%	9%	(510)

Gubernatorial Approval

STATEWIDE	<u>Approve</u> 76%	<u>Neutral</u> 11%	<u>Disapprove</u> 13%	<u>(N)</u> 501
Registered Democrat	90%	7%	3%	131
Undeclared	77%	10%	13%	201
Registered Republican	63%	8%	30%	104
Not registered	68%	24%	9%	57
Democrat	90%	8%	2%	228
Independent	77%	10%	13%	107
Republican	56%	14%	30%	156
Liberal	90%	7%	3%	105
Moderate	84%	11%	6%	215
Conservative	57%	9%	34%	144
Union household	82%	8%	10%	62
Non-union	75%	11%	14%	434
5 years or less in NH	77%	20%	4%	50
6 to 10 years	85%	9%	6%	38
11 to 20 years	75%	8%	16%	97
More than 20 years	75%	11%	15%	289
18 to 34	61%	21%	18%	65
35 to 49	79%	12%	10%	159
50 to 64	77%	7%	16%	169
65 and over	81%	9%	10%	72
Male	71%	10%	19%	244
Female	81%	11%	8%	258
High school or less	68%	20%	12%	113
Some college	81%	7%	12%	116
College graduate	77%	8%	15%	168
Post-graduate	79%	9%	13%	79
Less than \$30K	69%	15%	16%	33
\$30K to \$60K	82%	8%	10%	86
\$60K to \$75K	81%	11%	8%	43
\$75K to \$100K	83%	2%	15%	57
More than \$100K	77%	7%	16%	98
Married	77%	8%	14%	349
Divorced/separated	81%	12%	7%	70
Never married	64%	23%	13%	58
Protestant	74%	10%	16%	179
Catholic	75%	10%	15%	156
Other	82%	12%	6%	124
Attend services 1 or more/week	71%	10%	18%	113
1-2 times a month	77%	6%	17%	55
Less often	80%	11%	9%	156
Never	74%	14%	12%	149
North Country	78%	5%	17%	43
Central/Lakes	71%	10%	19%	85
Connecticut Valley	78%	8%	14%	73
Mass Border	69%	18%	13%	136
Seacoast	86%	4%	10%	89
Manchester Area	80%	12%	9%	75
1st Cong. District	79%	12%	10%	256
2nd Cong. District	74%	10%	17%	246

Favorability Rating - John Lynch

	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>(N)</u>
STATEWIDE	76%	8%	12%	5%	505
Registered Democrat	91%	4%	3%	2%	132
Undeclared	77%	9%	11%	3%	201
Registered Republican	59%	10%	25%	6%	105
Not registered	66%	8%	13%	13%	58
Democrat	91%	5%	2%	3%	230
Independent	77%	10%	9%	4%	106
Republican	54%	12%	27%	8%	157
Liberal	91%	4%	3%	2%	106
Moderate	83%	6%	6%	4%	215
Conservative	53%	10%	30%	7%	145
Union household	88%	1%	11%	0%	62
Non-union	74%	9%	12%	5%	437
5 years or less in NH	68%	6%	8%	18%	50
6 to 10 years	84%	7%	6%	3%	38
11 to 20 years	74%	5%	16%	5%	98
More than 20 years	76%	9%	13%	2%	291
18 to 34	60%	8%	19%	13%	66
35 to 49	79%	9%	9%	3%	158
50 to 64	78%	6%	14%	2%	169
65 and over	74%	7%	12%	7%	74
Male	71%	9%	16%	4%	247
Female	80%	7%	8%	5%	259
High school or less	68%	11%	13%	8%	113
Some college	79%	5%	12%	5%	118
College graduate	76%	8%	12%	3%	167
Post-graduate	79%	6%	13%	2%	81
Less than \$30K	73%	6%	14%	7%	34
\$30K to \$60K	80%	6%	9%	5%	85
\$60K to \$75K	83%	9%	8%	0%	43
\$75K to \$100K	81%	4%	14%	1%	57
More than \$100K	75%	10%	13%	2%	99
Married	78%	7%	12%	2%	347
Divorced/separated	74%	7%	10%	9%	71
Never married	60%	10%	16%	14%	62
Protestant	76%	6%	14%	4%	180
Catholic	70%	11%	17%	3%	157
Other	82%	4%	5%	9%	126
Attend services 1 or more/week	67%	10%	20%	3%	113
1-2 times a month	74%	8%	17%	2%	55
Less often	81%	5%	10%	4%	156
Never	76%	8%	8%	8%	150
North Country	81%	6%	12%	1%	43
Central/Lakes	74%	7%	16%	3%	85
Connecticut Valley	77%	7%	11%	4%	73
Mass Border	72%	9%	13%	7%	136
Seacoast	79%	7%	8%	6%	90
Manchester Area	75%	10%	12%	3%	76
1st Cong. District	77%	9%	9%	5%	259
2nd Cong. District	74%	7%	15%	5%	247

Are Things in NH on Right/Wrong Track

	<u>Right Direction</u> 76%	<u>Wrong Track</u> 18%	<u>Don't Know</u> 6%	<u>(N)</u> 500
STATEWIDE				
Registered Democrat	83%	9%	7%	132
Undeclared	72%	21%	7%	199
Registered Republican	71%	25%	4%	103
Not registered	82%	15%	3%	59
Democrat	86%	8%	6%	231
Independent	71%	20%	8%	105
Republican	64%	31%	5%	154
Liberal	87%	12%	2%	106
Moderate	81%	12%	7%	214
Conservative	62%	34%	4%	144
Union household	84%	14%	2%	62
Non-union	75%	19%	6%	433
5 years or less in NH	81%	11%	8%	50
6 to 10 years	88%	12%	0%	39
11 to 20 years	77%	15%	7%	98
More than 20 years	73%	21%	6%	286
18 to 34	79%	16%	5%	65
35 to 49	76%	21%	3%	157
50 to 64	76%	19%	5%	169
65 and over	77%	12%	11%	72
Male	75%	19%	6%	242
Female	77%	17%	6%	258
High school or less	69%	23%	8%	110
Some college	82%	14%	4%	117
College graduate	76%	18%	6%	169
Post-graduate	78%	16%	6%	79
Less than \$30K	77%	17%	6%	34
\$30K to \$60K	76%	19%	5%	86
\$60K to \$75K	68%	29%	2%	43
\$75K to \$100K	80%	20%	0%	57
More than \$100K	84%	14%	2%	98
Married	74%	21%	6%	345
Divorced/separated	84%	11%	5%	70
Never married	83%	11%	7%	60
Protestant	76%	19%	5%	180
Catholic	75%	19%	5%	153
Other	80%	14%	6%	125
Attend services 1 or more/week	70%	24%	6%	109
1-2 times a month	80%	13%	7%	55
Less often	80%	15%	5%	157
Never	75%	20%	5%	150
North Country	72%	19%	9%	43
Central/Lakes	73%	22%	5%	83
Connecticut Valley	77%	19%	5%	73
Mass Border	76%	16%	8%	134
Seacoast	82%	14%	3%	90
Manchester Area	72%	21%	6%	76
1st Cong. District	77%	16%	7%	257
2nd Cong. District	75%	20%	5%	243

Most Important Problem Facing NH

	<u>Educ Funding</u> 23%	<u>Taxes</u> 15%	<u>Jobs/ Economy</u> 9%	<u>Quality Educ.</u> 9%	<u>Health Care</u> 11%	<u>Other</u> 27%	<u>Don't Know</u> 7%	<u>(N=)</u> 488
STATEWIDE								
Registered Democrat	27%	18%	13%	4%	13%	18%	6%	130
Undeclared	24%	16%	6%	10%	13%	27%	4%	195
Registered Republican	26%	10%	3%	16%	4%	36%	4%	98
Not registered	7%	8%	23%	4%	5%	32%	21%	56
Democrat	26%	16%	13%	8%	14%	18%	5%	229
Independent	20%	12%	10%	5%	9%	36%	8%	99
Republican	22%	14%	2%	12%	6%	34%	9%	149
Liberal	26%	15%	12%	6%	12%	25%	4%	106
Moderate	24%	16%	8%	8%	15%	21%	8%	206
Conservative	18%	15%	9%	12%	3%	35%	8%	139
Union household	39%	20%	5%	6%	9%	15%	5%	62
Non-union	21%	14%	10%	9%	11%	28%	7%	421
5 years or less in NH	4%	14%	14%	9%	2%	39%	18%	50
6 to 10 years	25%	17%	4%	9%	9%	32%	4%	38
11 to 20 years	30%	13%	6%	9%	13%	23%	7%	91
More than 20 years	23%	15%	9%	9%	11%	26%	6%	282
18 to 34	16%	2%	12%	12%	8%	31%	18%	62
35 to 49	22%	16%	11%	12%	5%	30%	4%	157
50 to 64	26%	17%	6%	6%	17%	25%	3%	164
65 and over	23%	15%	7%	10%	10%	24%	12%	69
Male	29%	18%	8%	6%	6%	28%	5%	237
Female	17%	13%	10%	11%	15%	26%	8%	251
High school or less	11%	14%	18%	4%	9%	35%	9%	106
Some college	18%	9%	13%	10%	13%	27%	9%	115
College graduate	24%	17%	4%	11%	11%	27%	6%	165
Post-graduate	42%	13%	3%	10%	9%	18%	4%	79
Less than \$30K	11%	5%	2%	9%	17%	46%	9%	33
\$30K to \$60K	25%	16%	14%	8%	13%	16%	8%	82
\$60K to \$75K	23%	13%	9%	10%	2%	37%	5%	42
\$75K to \$100K	23%	8%	12%	16%	19%	19%	2%	57
More than \$100K	26%	16%	7%	10%	10%	24%	8%	95
Married	25%	15%	9%	9%	10%	27%	5%	337
Divorced/separated	19%	19%	6%	10%	11%	27%	8%	69
Never married	15%	3%	15%	8%	11%	29%	18%	58
Protestant	22%	16%	8%	11%	9%	27%	9%	170
Catholic	20%	13%	8%	10%	13%	29%	7%	150
Other	25%	13%	11%	6%	12%	27%	7%	126
Attend services 1 or more/week	18%	12%	7%	10%	12%	32%	8%	110
1-2 times a month	27%	12%	2%	16%	11%	24%	7%	54
Less often	21%	16%	8%	11%	9%	25%	9%	151
Never	24%	14%	15%	5%	10%	28%	5%	145
North Country	25%	24%	15%	8%	7%	18%	3%	43
Central/Lakes	20%	12%	7%	13%	10%	34%	4%	85
Connecticut Valley	25%	20%	8%	7%	7%	27%	6%	72
Mass Border	29%	10%	10%	5%	13%	26%	8%	129
Seacoast	23%	13%	10%	7%	12%	25%	10%	87
Manchester Area	12%	21%	6%	15%	9%	28%	8%	71
1st Cong. District	19%	16%	10%	8%	13%	26%	8%	246
2nd Cong. District	27%	14%	8%	10%	8%	28%	5%	243